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PRESS RELEASE

Task Force to Combat Anti-Semitism Letter to Harvard University

JUNE 30, 2025

Today, the Task Force to Combat Anti-Semitism sent the following letter to Harvard University:

Dear Dr. Garber,

Harvard holds the regrettable distinction of being among the most prominent and visible breeding ground for race discrimination, as the Supreme Court noted in *Students for Fair Admission v. Harvard*, 600 U.S. 181 (2023). That legacy of discrimination persists with Harvard's continued anti-Semitism. Any institution that refuses to meet its duties under federal law may not receive a wide range of federal privileges.

Today, the Joint Task Force to Combat Anti-Semitism is notifying you that the Office for Civil Rights at the United States Department of Health and Human Services has [concluded](#) its Title VI investigation regarding anti-Semitism at Harvard University. **After a thorough investigation, HHS OCR finds that Harvard University is in violent violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin.**

The enclosed Notice of Violation details the findings of fact supporting a conclusion that Harvard has been in some cases deliberately indifferent, and in others has been a willful participant in anti-Semitic harassment of Jewish students, faculty, and staff. For example:

- The *majority* of Jewish students reported experiencing negative bias or discrimination on campus, while a *quarter* felt *physically unsafe*.
- Jewish and Israeli students were assaulted and spit on; they hid their kippahs for fear of being harassed and concealed their Jewish identity from classmates for fear of ostracization.
- Images were widely circulated among the Harvard community that trafficked in obvious anti-Semitic tropes, including one that showed a dollar sign inside a Star of David. The campus was vandalized with anti-Semitic stickers, including one that showed the Israeli flag with a swastika in place of the Star of David.
- The campus was wracked by demonstrations that flagrantly violated the University's rules of conduct. The demonstrations included calls for genocide and murder, and denied Jewish and Israeli students access to campus spaces.
- The heart of campus was overrun by an impermissible, multiweek encampment that instilled fear in, and disrupted the studies of, Jewish and Israeli students. Even worse, individuals who participated in the encampment received lax and inconsistent discipline—and as the discipline was reviewed by higher levels among the faculty, it was often *downgraded*. By the end of the process, even accounting only for the students that were charged, only a fraction received some sort of discipline, and none were suspended. A member of Harvard's own leadership called the disciplinary process "not fair" and "not right."

Harvard did not dispute our findings of fact, nor could it. These facts, while tragic for the individuals involved, are important to address for a broader, historical reason as well. As history has proven, the failure to face the reality of anti-Semitism can have catastrophic effects. The Holocaust engulfed Europe due to the "[d]isbelief, incredulity, and denial on the part of both victims and onlookers" which "worked to the advantage of those who wanted to eradicate the Jews."

Harvard's inaction in the face of these civil rights violations is a clear example of the demographic hierarchy that has taken hold of the University. Equal defense of the law demands that all groups, regardless of race or national origin, are protected. Harvard's commitment to racial hierarchies—where individuals are sorted and judged according to their membership in an oppressed group identity and not individual merit—has enabled anti-Semitism to fester on Harvard's campus and has led a once great institution to humiliation, offering remedial math and forcing Jewish students to hide their identities and ancestral stories.

Failure to institute adequate changes immediately will result in the loss of all federal financial resources and continue to affect Harvard's relationship with the federal government. Harvard may of course continue to operate free of federal privileges, and perhaps such an opportunity will spur a commitment to excellence that will help Harvard thrive once again.

The enclosed document serves to focus Harvard on the need for meaningful and immediate reform and fulfill the requirement under law that Americans cease funding discriminatory institutions.